solvent Refined Coal (SRC) technology (CFRI).

— Silicon reduction studies in blast furnace (IIT, Kanpur).

— Some fundamental studies of continuous casting of steel (IIT, Kanpur).

— Development of Mathematical model for continuous casting of thin strips (IIT, Kanpur).

— Studies on fluid flow and heat transfer in continuous casting mould (IISc, Bangalore).

— Experimental and analytical studies on formability of LPG grade steel, fatigue and impact behaviour of mild and micro-alloyed steels (IIT, Madras).

The Mission has not been posed with any specific problems from the iron and steel producers in the context of development of the steel sector in the liberalised regime. However, the Mission continues to identify such problem-areas in consultation with the Iron & Steel producers etc.

गुजरात में इस्पात परियोजनाएं स्थापित किया जाना

2876. **श्री चिमन भाई हरिभाई शुक्ल** : क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार को गुजरात सरकार की ओर से इस्पात परियोजनाएं स्थापित करने हेतु निजी क्षेत्र को आशय-पत्र जारी करने के संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) उन निजी कम्पनियों के नाम क्या हैं जिनकी गुजरात सरकार ने सिफारिश की है;

(घ) सरकार की उस पर प्रतिक्रिया क्या है और उक्त आशय-पत्र की वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव): (क) निजी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्थापना करने के लिए आशय-पत्र जारी करने हेतु गुजरात सरकार से कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है । औद्योगिक लाइसेंस के लिए केन्द्र सरकार की मंजूरी केवल तभी लेनी होती है जब परियोजना 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार 10 लाख से अधिक की आबादी वाले शहरों की मानक शहरी क्षेत्र सीमा के 25 कि० मी० के भीतर स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव हो ।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Export of Steel Rails by Bhilai Steel Plant

2877. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of countries to which steel rails are exported by Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) the number of rails exported in 1992-93 and the foreign exchange earned therefrom ; and

(c) the projected export figures of rails during 1994-95 by Bhilai Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Presently Bhilai Steel Plant is not exporting steel rails.

(b) There has been no export of steel rails by Bhilai Steel Plant during 1992-93 and 1993-94.

(c) There is no plan for export of steel rails by Bhilai Steel Plant during 1994-95.

Production of Pillets in Bhilai Steel Plant

2878. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the later years of the controlled regime, production of pillets had not been in the conscious production programme of the SAIL plants ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and in what manner the country's requirements of mild steel pillets were being met ;

(c) what is the likely impact of increasing the production capacity of pillets of the Bhilai Steel Plant from 3 15 lakh tonnes to 5.35 lakh tonnes on the mini steel plants and the secondary producers as also on the profitability of the Bhilai Steel Plant ; and

(d) whether it will not be in the financial interest of the Bhilai Steel Plant to produce larger quantities of value added products in preference to production of pillets : if so, the detailed justification for changing the product mix of the Bhilai Steel Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The rolling mills in this country, many of whom belong to the small scale and medium scale sectors have surplus rolling capacity. Compared to the requirement, there is still a shortage of semis in the country which includes billets. Hence production of more billets by the RSP will help to meet the market demand and is not likely to have an impact on mini steel plants.